

# CFLCC SAFETY GRAM



A young soldier was crushed between a USMC AAV and a HETS trailer



## Failure to Follow Proper Procedures

**Incident:** It was the end of the duty day, the unit had just arrived at their release point completing the hauling of USMC Amphibious Assault Vehicles (AAVs) on US Army Heavy Equipment Transporters Systems (HETS). The unit had not successfully linked up with the proper receiving USMC unit to offload the AAVs; there were no USMC operators for the AAVs on site to offload the vehicles. Unit soldiers attempted to offload one AAV themselves.

## Follow Proper Procedures:

- ✓ Ensure all drivers are licensed and are qualified to drive the required vehicles to do their jobs. Unlicensed drivers may not know all of the dangers and "quirks" of certain vehicles.
- ✓ Ensure both the driver and the ground guide have experience offloading the specific equipment to be offloaded.
- ✓ Ensure hand and arm signals are understood before beginning loading or offloading procedures.
- ✓ Ensure the ground guide takes the proper position by standing on top of the gooseneck of the HET trailer, holding the rails, maintaining visual contact with the driver of the vehicle being loaded or offloaded, IAW proper ground guiding procedures.
- ✓ Follow procedures in TM 2330-381-14 - Heavy Equipment Transporter System (HETS) semi-trailer dtd. NOV 1994 or newer edition as they become available.
- ✓ Follow procedures in FM 55-30 – Army Motor Transport Units and Operations; review these procedures regularly.
- ✓ Learn and follow unit SOPs; Get involved, make the necessary on-the-spot corrections to PREVENT accidents.